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TEGUCIGALPA IN SPANISH TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS 0235 GMT 14

JULY 69 C

(TEXT) TEGUCIGALPA, 13 JULY--THE HONDURAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED

TODAY THAT AT 0230 ZERO TWO HUNDRED HOURS LOCAL TIME SALVADORAN

TROOPS POSTED IN EL ROSARIO, ON THE FRONTIER BORDERING ON THE

DEPARTMENT OF OCOTEPEQUE, OPENED FIRE ON HONDURAN OBSERVATION

POSTS ON THE HONDURAN SIDE OF THE FRONTIER. THE HONDURAN TROOPS

DID NOT ANSWER THIS FIRST RIFLE, MORTAR, AND MACHINEGUN ATTACK

BY THE SALVADORAN FORCES. AT 0430 ZERO FOUR THIRTY HOURS

SALVADORAN TROOPS WERE STILL FIRING. THE HONDURAN TROOPS,

WHEN THEY LEARNED THAT CIVILIANS HAD BEEN KILLED AS A RESULT

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OF THE ATTACK, ANSWERED THE SALVADORAN FIRE. AT THE SAME TIME,

THE SALVADORAN ARMY TROOPS BEGAN FIRING MORTARS, MACHINEGUNS

AND RIFLES AT ANOTHER POINT BORDERING ON THE DEPARTMENT

OF OCOTEPEQUE. ONCE AGAIN HONDURAN FORCES STATIONED ON

HONDURAN TERRITORY ANSWERED THE FIRE IN AN ENCOUNTER WHICH

LASTED 3 THREE HOURS, AND THEY WERE ABLE TO REPULSE THE ATTACK

AND SILENCE THE SALVADORAN FIRE. NO HONDURAN CASUALTIES HAVE BEEN

REPORTED. 140235. PETERSON/PJM/ED 14/0151Z JUL

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